AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1-6 (cancelled)

7. (currently amended): A circuit for use in a respirator type apparatus, said apparatus delivering gas to the pulmonary tract of a patient during inspiration, said circuit having an operating point comprising:

a piezoresistive pressure transducer responsive to the breath of said patient and generating a signal in response thereto;

a differential amplifier having an output and a gain, said differential amplifier being responsive to said signal;

an initialization ~~means~~ circuit coupled to the output of said differential amplifier, said initialization ~~means~~ circuit having an output, said initialization ~~means~~ circuit becoming operative for a predetermined time period when power is applied to said apparatus, said initialization ~~means~~ circuit causing said apparatus to be at said operating point at the end of said predetermined period;

a voltage comparator having an output and first and second inputs said first and second inputs being coupled to the output of said differential amplifier; and

a delayed negative feedback circuit coupled to the output of said initialization ~~means~~ circuit and having an output; the output of said delayed negative feedback circuit being coupled to said differential amplifier.

8. (previously presented): The circuit of claim 7 wherein the voltage at said first input of said voltage comparator is approximately at said operating point, the voltage at said second input of said voltage comparator being less than said operating point.

9. (previously presented): The circuit of claim 8 wherein the voltage at said first input of said voltage comparator and said second input of said voltage comparator increase on patient inspiration.

10. (previously presented): The circuit of claim 9 wherein the voltage increase at said second input of said voltage comparator is greater than the voltage increase at said first input of said voltage comparator, the voltage difference causing the output of said voltage comparator to change state.